



PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY
EDGAR SNOWDEN.

TUESDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 9

The republican victory in Maine, yesterday, like that in California last week, and, as we fear, that in Ohio will be next month, is not surprising. The democrats were hardly in the fight at all, the contest being between the republicans on the one side and the greenback workingmen's party on the other, the former advocating the good old democratic doctrine of sound money, and the latter, the wild vagary of an irredeemable paper or an unlimited and debased silver currency. In such a contest it was but reasonable that patriotic democrats and these interested in the preservation of property and the stability of values should have voted with the former. The country now, owing to natural causes, has entered upon a period of renewed business activity and commercial prosperity, and all it wants to secure its material welfare is peace and non-interference by the Government with the medium by which trade is conducted. Toward the attainment of the former republicanism is certainly not conducive, but the success of the greenbackers would effectually prevent the latter, and for that reason people who have any interests to be protected, or who have any regard for the interests of the country, are disposed to look upon the result of the Maine election as the lesser of the two evils presented, and to derive from that fact such consolation, poor though it be, as it is capable of affording. The democrats are hard to teach, but it may be that what has just occurred in California and Maine, and what we are afraid may occur from the same causes in Ohio next month, and in New York the month after, from a party quarrel, may induce them to realize their precarious condition, and teach them how to pluck the flower safely from the nettle danger in the presidential election next year. Of their success in this year's election, owing to their recognition of the cardinal principles of their party, we have little hope; but all is not lost if they shall be wise enough to profit by their defeat, and make haste to adjust their position and return to the faith of their fathers, and learn how to present a solid front in the presence of the enemy.

The most puzzling public question now, to people outside of Virginia, is the contest in progress in this State about the settlement of the State's indebtedness, and to be frank, we must confess it is no less puzzling to us, even when we give to the demagogism that is the actuating principle of the forcible readjusters its full value as a factor in the problem. If there is a man who, when in financial trouble, would hesitate to accept terms by which one third of the principal of his debt and one half of the accrued interest would be abated, and the interest on the remainder be reduced to one half of what he agreed to pay when he made the loan, who, to express the same idea in other words, after borrowing \$1,000 for which he promised to pay \$60 a year interest, which interest he has failed to pay for many years, would decline terms by which the yearly interest on his debt would be reduced to \$20, and half of his over due interest be canceled, he has to be discovered, and yet that is precisely what the forcible readjusters want the State to do. There is a valid objection to the McCulloch bill, but it is rarely alluded to—never by those who oppose that bill—we refer to its repudiating character, for, attempt to conceal it as we may, it is flat repudiation, and the creditors would have been likely to agree to the terms if they supposed more favorable ones could have been obtained. To borrow a man's money at six per cent, and then refuse to pay him but half the accrued interest, but two thirds of the principal, and only three per cent on that, and that, too, when your assets are amply sufficient to pay your whole indebtedness, is not called repudiation by the advocates of the McCulloch bill, but in what terms does differ from repudiation is more than we can tell. However, as the State's creditors have agreed to such terms, and so, partially at least, removed from the compromise the black stain of repudiation, why any Virginian—democrat, independent, republican or radical, white or black—should object to it, especially on the ground of its unfavorable terms to the State, passeth all understanding.

A recent examination of the books in the land office of the Interior Department by a gentleman who has had casual access to those books reveals the enormous quantity of the public land that has been squandered by the radicals since they came into possession of the Government. Indeed his disclosures may well be said to be appalling. Millions of acres have been given away, sometimes in tracts as large as States, and often for no other purpose than to put a small portion of the plunder into their own pockets. The people of the country have been robbed of untold wealth in order that the robbers might receive a few thousand dollars, as a thief will destroy the water apparatus of a whole house to get the few cents the lead pipe will bring at the junk store. When the rascality of the radical regime shall be exhibited in all its nakedness, which cannot be done during a radical administration, the wonder will be how the people allowed themselves to be so outrageously and rapaciously plundered for so long a term without finding it out, and whether the robbers will be permitted to go unpunished.

One of the many ways open to this city for the improvement of its condition is that by which officeholders and other people doing business in Washington can be induced to reside here with their families. With cheap

rents, cheap water, cheap gas, cheap dry goods, cheap groceries and provisions—all of which should be as low priced here as in any other city in the country, and much cheaper than they are in Washington—and with another train on the Washington Railroad between 7 and 12 o'clock at night, many people who now live in Washington would come here, both for economical purposes and as a place infinitely better for bringing up children. An improvement in our streets would be another inducement for them to come here, for the present condition of the thoroughfares shocks strangers at the first sight. Instead of the patching now in progress, and which is certainly better than nothing, one street at a time should be macadamized, and with the money now spent in repairing, and with the labor of the chain gang, the rapidity with which the whole length of a street, if set about diligently, could be repaired, would surprise those unaccustomed to the order with which such work is accomplished elsewhere. Let the town once get out of the old rut, and there is no telling the speed with which she will advance.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

A painter fell fifty feet in East Baltimore yesterday and was instantly killed.

Mr. Vernon M. E. Church in Baltimore has extended a call to Rev. Thomas Ward.

It seems probable that the republicans have elected all four of the Congressmen from California.

Charles Jewett, son of President Jewett, of the Erie Railroad, died at Denver, Col., on Saturday last.

President Hayes, General Sherman and Attorney General Devens left Washington yesterday for the West.

Mrs. Chisholm gave her testimony yesterday in the trial of the Keener county murder case at Da Kalb, Miss.

Mr. French, ex-Sergeant at Arms of the Senate, will, it is said, succeed Mr. Phelps as one of the District of Columbia Commissioners.

Judging from the number of applications received at the Navy Department for discharges from the navy from boys who have entered, as apprentices on the different training ships, that service is not as agreeable as the boys expected.

A business is said to be carried on in England, France and Germany for the manufacture of facsimiles of U. S. postage stamps, which are sold to persons who are making collections of postage stamps.

The steamer City of Montreal, which arrived in New York on Sunday, brought \$300,000 in silver. The membership Germania, which arrived on Saturday, brought \$2,012,475, of which \$92,000 were gold bars; the remainder American gold coin.

W. H. Bell, connected with the Adams Express Company at Kansas City, Mo., absconded on the 20th of August, taking \$1,500 of the company's money. He was arrested at Green Cove Springs, 25 miles from Jacksonville, Fla., on the St. John's river, yesterday, and \$2,500 of the money recovered. He was taken to Kansas City.

Arrangements for laying the cornerstone of the monument to Sergeant William Jasper, of the Revolutionary army, who fell at the siege of Savannah, on October 9, 1779, on the occasion of that event, are completed.

The governors of Georgia and other States will be present, and an oration will be delivered by Senator J. B. Gordon.

A convention of the Citizens' Protective Association, in favor of the repeal or modification of the Sunday laws of the State, was held in Newark, N. J., yesterday, when resolutions were adopted denouncing the attempts which have been recently made to enforce obsolete laws, and calling on the Legislature to modify the existing laws.

YELLOW FEVER.

Twenty-five cases—15 white and 10 colored—were reported to the Board of Health of Memphis yesterday.

The annual Board of Health received information from Memphis City, La., yesterday, that there has been a death there from yellow fever, and that the town was pervaded by the stench arising from the bodies of fish left on shore by the flood, and of cattle drowned during the recent storm.

There are about a dozen cases of yellow fever in the quarantine hospital at New York.

MEMPHIS, TENN., Sept. 9.—The following have been received:

To the Associated Press Agent:

TO ALL FEDERAL SOLDIERS.

Arise we call for help. Let us not slumber. The Howard do not provide for us, nor the city government. We need money, provisions, and blankets. The fever will not subside before the frost comes. All business is stopped, and will not reopen till winter.

(Signed) H. F. Hill, Captain 9th Ill. Cavalry, Chairman of Relief Association.

E. B. MILLARD, Secretary, 421 North Court street.

MEMPHIS, TENN., Sept. 9.—Ten cases, nine white and one colored, were reported to the Board of Health this morning—among the number E. C. Brookshire, a compositor in the Ledger office. Little intimations have been reported—Mrs. Maggie Bennett, Wm. Wrenn, Jos. Baehner, Chas. Burman and four colored. The weather is cool and cloudy.

THE PRESIDENT'S YERKOWN CRISTENAL.—The Philadelphia Press states that the scheme for a national centennial celebration of Lord Cornwallis's surrender at Yorktown, Va., of which the meeting there on Friday was the initial movement, was projected in Philadelphia. The design is to follow it up on October 18, and 19 by a conference at Independence Hall, Philadelphia, of all the Governors of the thirteen original States, then and there to discuss and perfect a plan for this national celebration.

With these thirteen Governors, the executives of their delegations of the other States will be invited. It is also an essential part of the programme to have the republics of France participate in this centennial, and the French Society of New York have eagerly responded to the suggestion of a relay race meeting on the 18th proximo, and have offered to be present by an influential delegation.

Editors are seldom heard discussing the propriety of taking summer vacations and leaving their congregations. Editors must preach every day. Editors must stay and "stick it out."

Editors can't move their studios to the mountains or breezy seashore. Editors must get their inspiration at the old desk the year round—the desk which looks out on a patch of brick wall ten feet opposite and an iron shutter. Newspapers never close their pulpits. Wouldn't it be ridiculous to propose vacating a newspaper pulpit for two or three months during the warm season and sending the staff to Europe or Long Branch to cure their bronchitis?

Newspaper men are like cooks. They must broil at the furnace the year round.—A. Y. Graphic.

THE VIRGINIA GAME LAWS.—Lutful to kill deer from September 1st to January 15th.

Pheasants from August 1st to February 1st.

Any wild water fowl from September 1st to May 1st. Wild turkeys from October 15th to February 1st.

Persons offending against the game laws are guilty of a misdemeanor, and are liable to a fine of \$10, or imprisonment for thirty days.

It is also the duty of the sheriff to prosecute promptly and vigorously any person violating these laws.

AN UNKNOWN HERMIT'S SUICIDE.—An old German, with a curious history, committed suicide at Atlanta, Ga., Friday. He went to Atlanta many years ago, and took lodgings at a country house. He refused to give any name, and was known as "Joe." He lived as a hermit, never leaving his room. A day or two ago he said he was seventy-two years old, and that he was getting too old to live. Friday he took an old army musket, and, resting it between his legs, fired it into his face. He left absolutely nothing that would solve the mystery of his identity, and died unknown. He was a man of culture and refinement.

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FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 9, 1879.

The Maine election is almost the sole topic of talk about the hotels and departments to-day, and it is apparent that the democrats are exceedingly low spirited as the result. Coming so soon upon the heels of the disaster in California they are forced against their wills to look upon it as presaging defeat in Ohio and New York, and in hunting for a cause for their ill luck in the past and the prospects of it in the future, are not unreasonably attributing it to the greenback movement, to the extra session of Congress, and to such unfortunate occurrences in the South as the Dixon and Chisholm affairs. All these causes doubtless have had some effect in producing the existing condition of political affairs, but the evil of that condition could have been mitigated, if not entirely avoided, by able and competent leaders, but these, unfortunately, the democrats have not got. They have the men out of which to make them, but the machine politicians keep them in the background, and give the leaders' places to light weights and dander heads.

Dispatches from Memphis to the National Board of Health here to-day give the following as the yellow fever statement of that city since yesterday's report: Number of new cases, 25—15 white and 10 colored; deaths, 6—4 white and two colored. It is now considered almost certain that there will be no "let up" in the disease at Memphis until after frost.

The receipts at the Treasury to-day from internal revenue amounted to \$180,461; from customs, \$653,621.

The annual convention of the superintendents of fire departments in the United States assembled here at noon to-day in the Masonic Temple. About sixty members are present from cities in all sections of the country.

The purpose of the convention is to devise ways, not means, for the improvement of the service with which the members are connected, and rendering it more efficient. Nearly all the delegates are stopping at the Riggs House, where some of the patents are being tested.

The name of Mr. E. S. Ladd, president of the competent and efficient superintendent of the Alexandria fire department, does not appear in the list of the members present.

Thirty employees in the National Bank Note Redemption Agency of the U. S. Treasury were discharged yesterday, among them B. G. Underwood, who was appointed through the instrumentality of his uncle, the late Judge Underwood. He is reported to have been an efficient officer, and has written a book for the detection of counterfeit notes; but he was sailing under false colors, having been discharged from the service for fraud.

Among the cases called at the police court in this city this morning was that of a colored woman charged with threatening the life of one of her own sex and race, but hardly had she appeared in the prisoner's box before it was apparent that she was in a dire strait, and a physician being on hand, he informed the Court that unless it wished to witness an execution it should order her to be taken to the retiring room at once, where order was immediately issued and executed.

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The Afghan Revolt.

Dispatches to the London papers intimate that the rising in Cabul was unopposed, that it was purely local, and that submission to the Afghan authority will soon be restored by the British troops, which are advancing upon the capital. The insurgents, however, are sending messages summoning the whole country to rise in arms, and their regiments are being marched to districts where it is supposed the rebellion can thus be spread.

The British mission to Afghanistan consisted of Major Cavagnari, his secretary, Mr. Jenkins, Dr. Kelley, Lieut. Hamilton, commanding the escort—consisting of twenty-six cavalry and fifty infantry—and a Sepoy guide. The troops of the embassy were lodged in two houses in the city joined by a quadrangle. The houses were spacious, but, unfortunately, chiefly constructed of wood.

A dispatch from Allahabad announces that the two troops belonging to the escort who were absent from the city collecting force at the time of the outbreak. The officers had turned down the doorway of the embassy and warned it.

The Victory of India telegraph: "Advices from A. K. B. dated Saturday last, say that Badshah Khan saw the corpse of Major Cavagnari and the members of his staff and escort. The party made a very sad and desolate. The loss of the rioters killed in the fight is estimated at over one hundred."

It is reported that three of the numerous regiments have marched from Cabul. In official circles Ayob Khan and other officials are suspected of complicity in the outbreak.

Bombay dispatches announce that orders have been given for the collection of means of transportation. The Punjab is being secured for camels. The Khyber column is not expected to advance at present, as all means of transportation will be sent to the Khyber force. The insurgents have sent messengers to all the tribes, calling on the whole country to rise in arms.

A dispatch from Allahabad announces that the Governor of India has proffered assistance to the British authorities. General Roberts will probably be in Cabul in a fortnight.

The St. Petersburg Globe, discussing the outbreak, says the money expended on the Afghan expedition has been wasted, and the treaty of Gandamak torn to shreds. The conquest of Afghanistan by the British is a fatal success.

A Simla dispatch reports that grave fears are now entertained that the Amirs have joined the insurgents to save himself.

The Korum column, which will be the first to move on Cabul, is in excellent condition, not having suffered from cholera. It consists of the second battalion of the Eighth regiment, the thirty-seventh regiment, the Seventh and Ninth—second Highlanders, two mountain and two field batteries, one battery of horse artillery, three regiments of native infantry and three cavalry, and one regiment of officers.

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Touching Response.

In response to the resolutions of grief at the death of the late Prince Imperial, and condolences and sympathy with the ex-Empress Eugenie in her affliction, adopted by the native and descendant Cerebians of Richmond, the following grateful acknowledgment has been received, the original letter being written in French:

CAMDEN PLACE, CHICHESTER, 20th August, 1879.

Dear Sir:—The Empress has received the touching address which you have forwarded to her, signed by the Corsicans of Richmond, and she was profoundly moved thereby. Citizens of the United States, you have retained your love for France, which you personify in the dynasty of the Napoleons, and you mingle the remembrance of the Emperor Napoleon I. and of the Emperor Napoleon III. in the expression of the profound sorrow caused by the heroic end of a prince—worthy successor of his glorious ancestors. Her Majesty charges me to thank you, and prays me to be the bearer of her gratitude to those who have signed the address, and to those who have offered up their prayers in the Cathedral of St. Peter for the repose of the soul of her dearly beloved son. She also returns her thanks to Miss Orlia Rys